

STATEMENT OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH  
CAROLINA ON THE DEDICATION OF RADIO STATION WFAK,  
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, APRIL 25, 1947.

April 25, 1947

Celebrating the Dedication of WFAK, Charleston

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Statement by J. Strom Thurmond, governor of South Carolina.

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I consider the invitation to participate in the dedication program of Radio Station WFAK a <sup>genuine</sup> ~~real~~ honor and my only regret is that I could not, because of pressure of state business, attend the ceremonies in person. I send this message to the people of Charleston and to the management of the station with the feeling that the opening of ~~NEW~~ this new station is somewhat indicative of the growth of your community.

~~For~~ Charleston is growing. It is taking advantage of having acquired many skilled workers in war-time industries and is using their brains and abilities to build new industries for peace. The establishment of a new radio station in the city is an example of keeping pace with the times and the full development of the new era which Charleston is enjoying.

I have said repeatedly recently that Charleston has port facilities which are unsurpassed. Few people elsewhere in the state have a true idea of their worth and the benefits that will come to all of South Carolina if those facilities are developed to their fullest. I think it the duty of this station, and all other media of information, to spread the news of your facilities.

Charleston is completing the celebration of Azalea festival week--an event which brought thousands of visitors to your city and which served to attract attention to all of South Carolina. I believe



strongly that your city and our state must grow and prosper together. We have the common goal of more and better jobs for our citizens and a greater participation in the good things of life.

Radio station WFAK, beginning to serve the people of Charleston, has the opportunity of being of great value to its listeners. I am sure that it will operate truly in the interests of the public. Station WFAK can--and I am sure will--help tremendously in carrying out a program designed to help all of South Carolina---a program of education and cultural development, of sound industrial expansion and of progressive agriculture. This station takes upon itself a public trust. I know that it will carry out that trust faithfully and eagerly.

Consequently, my friends, I admonish you to listen to the programs of this new station, and I call upon the station itself to be careful in its presentations so that the greatest possible number of people will be benefited by the programs and entertainment that are offered.

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